

NPR 12/3/76 newscast All Things Considered (nina Totenburg) on fbi destruction on three the letters.

the story is claimed as an npr investigation. it quotes peter dale scott only among those allied buffs. it is that in the course of lab work on three of the letters oswald wrote from russia, i gather to his mother, the letters were ruined permanently, without any copies having been made,

it was suggested that this destruction was deliberate because no copies had been made and the reason is that the fbi wanted to hide what it destroyed. liebeler made a significant contribution : what hoover wanted to hide is that oswald was violent, hoover having been quoted as testifying that they had no pre-assassination reason to believe oswald was violent.

destruction comes from the treatment that turned the letters entirely black.

maybe. but a little examination and consideration of other possibilities should be considered, some fingerprint treatments turn samples dark brown. this might be black on xerxing. that this treatment has this result is well known. example the so-called oswald paper bag. i think one of the magazines with klein's ads.

whether or not others made copies the cia was intercepting all this kind of mail. it was also supplying these intercepts to the fbi. the evidence is that most of the cia mail interception was for the fbi.

aside from any copies the russians may have and any marguerie oswald may have had there is at least a cia copy and probably an fbi copy from the intercepts.

it does not seem likely that when the reactions of the tests is well known that the fbi would destroy only copies. too much risk.

this is still another story if not another leak that focuses attention on oswald as the assassin. this serves official purposes. the story may be another on which the house committee may go charging off prematurely. one after another of these things in a series of what may be disinformations and at this juncture are time-wasters. each of these ploys takes committee time that is not spent investigating the crimes

any suggestion that oswald was an intelligence informant in russia has to consider if this could have been for the fbi there. more likely cia than fbi. this does not explain any fbi need to destroy. if marguerite ever had or had had any such she would have been pretty noisy. Besides it is my impression that she was given copies of what she gave the commission. if not all were destroyed with the destruction of the originals, if this is what happened to them

it does not seem likely that national public radio has the kind of inside sources who would such a story to it, as this story probably was leaked. or fed by one with a purpose. interestingly this is the third weekend story, when there is nobody in offices with whom a reporter can check. this happened on ^{three} two of the past four weekends. all three have to do with oswald abroad, too..

maybe it is a real and solid story. on first hearing it appeared to be. however, the longer one thinks of it the less probable it seems.

intelligence content by an intelligence operative seems unlikely in what would go into ussr mail. any intelligence agency would have told any operative that the mail is ~~xxx~~ examined.

HW